



## Severe Weather Safety Tips: **Flooding**

Provided by  
Kentucky Emergency Management (KYEM)



Floods are one of the most common disasters in Kentucky. They can affect just one neighborhood or span several counties or states. River floods grow slowly over several days of heavy rain. Flooding can even occur when it is not raining. You need to know what to do when a flood occurs no matter where you live. Knowing what to do is even more important if you live in a low-lying area, near a river or a dam.

### **Before a Flood**

- Learn about the chance of flooding in the places where you live and work.
- If you live in areas that flood frequently, stockpile emergency building materials such as: plywood, plastic sheeting, lumber nails, hammer and saw, pry bar, shovels and sandbags.
- Know and practice the evacuation routes from your home and work.

### **During a Flood**

- Listen to the radio for news and official orders.
- If you have time secure your home:
  - Bring in outdoor chairs and tables.
  - Move important items to an upper level.
  - Unplug appliances and turn off main power.
- If officials order evacuation, leave immediately!

### **After a Flood**

- Stay away from floodwater, it may be contaminated.
- Return home only after authorities say it is safe.
- Throw away any food that touched floodwater.
- Clean and remove germs from wet items.



Remember: **“Turn Around - Don't Drown”**  
**NEVER** drive or walk into floodwater!

Did You Know?: **6” of water can sweep you off your feet.**  
**2’ of water can sweep a car off the road.**

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